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SOURCE La Bulgarie [anti-Communist newspaper], No. 5, 1950.

BULGARIAN STATE EXPROPRIATIONS PINCH FARMERS

The average Bulgarian farmer holds about 50 decares of land, and usually cultivates about 40 decares of grain; while the remaining land is planted with vines and vegetables. His production normally reaches the following figures:

Crop:	Area (decares)	Average yield (kg) per decare	Total
Wheat	20	120	2,400
Corn	8	90	720
Oats	3	70	210
Barley	5	110	550
Millet	4	70	280
Total	40	460	4,160

The average family consists of five members, who share in all the work.

Quotas required by the state are as follows:

Crop:	Area (decares)	Quotas (kg) per decare	Total
Wheat	20	40	800
Corn	8	40	320
Oats	3	40	120
Barley	5	40	200
Millet	4	40	160
Total	40	200	1,600

After deliveries to the state, the farmer is left with only 1,600 kilograms of wheat, 400 kilograms of corn, 90 kilograms of oats, 350 kilograms of barley, and 120 kilograms of millet, on which he and his family have to subsist for a whole year, besides feeding their livestock, which usually consists of two oxen, a cow, a pig, and some poultry. Furthermore, he must provide the seed for the next sowing, and the balance of the grain is not nearly sufficient to provide even a minimum of these requirements.

- 1 - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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The compensation obtained for quota deliveries amounts to 32,000 leva, or 20 leva per kilogram of grain. This meager sum has to meet all the family expenses for food, clothing, shoes, fuel, capital amortization, taxes, etc. Most of the food must be purchased on the blackmarket, since ration coupons are available only to members of the Communist Party.

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- 2 -

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